Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously amended) An immunogenic composition, comprising a plasmid which will not replicate, wherein the plasmid comprises:

a first nucleotide sequence encoding a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) G protein or a RSV G protein fragment that generates antibodies that specifically react with RSV G protein,
an immediate early cytomegalovirus promoter sequence operatively linked to said first nucleotide sequence for expression of said RSV G protein or fragment thereof, and
a second nucleotide sequence encoding the human cytomegalovirus Intron A located between said first nucleotide sequence and said promoter sequence to increase expression of said RSV G protein or fragment thereof; and
a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier therefor.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said first nucleotide sequence encodes a full-length RSV G protein.

3. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 2 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

4. (Original) The composition of claim 2 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence encoding a full length RSV G protein having the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein said first nucleotide sequence encodes a RSV G protein from which the transmembrane coding sequence and sequences upstream thereto are absent.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 5 wherein said vector further comprises a heterologous signal peptide encoding nucleotide sequence immediately upstream of the 5'-terminus of said first nucleotide sequence.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein said signal peptide encoding sequence encodes the signal peptide for human tissue plasminogen activator.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 5 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:3).

9. (Original) The composition of claim 5 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a truncated RSV G protein having the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:4).

10. (Cancelled)

11, (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the plasmid vector is pXL5 as shown in Figure 4.

14. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the plasmid vector is pXL6 as shown in Figure 5.

15. (Currently amended) A method of stimulating an immune response in a mammal using an effective amount of an immunogenic composition comprising a plasmid that will not replicate, wherein the plasmid comprises:

a first nucleotide sequence encoding a RSV G protein or a RSV G protein fragment that generates antibodies that specifically react with RSV G protein,

an immediate early cytomegalovirus promoter sequence operatively linked to said first nucleotide sequence for expression of said RSV G protein or fragment thereof in the host,

a second nucleotide sequence encoding the human cytomegalovirus Intron A located between said first nucleotide

sequence and said promoter sequence to increase expression of said RSV G protein or fragment thereof, and
a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier therefor,
said method comprising administering said immunogenic composition to said mammal.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said first nucleotide sequence encodes a full-length RSV G protein.

17. (Previously amended) The method of claim 16 wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises the first nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

18. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence encoding a full length RSV G protein shown in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said first nucleotide sequence encodes a RSV G protein from which the transmembrane coding sequence and sequences upstream thereto are absent.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said vector further comprises a heterologous signal peptide encoding nucleotide sequences immediately upstream of the 5'-terminus of said first nucleotide sequence.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein said signal peptide encoding sequence encodes the signal peptide for human tissue plasminogen activator.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:3).

23. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said first nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a transverse RSV G protein shown in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:4).

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said plasmid vector is pXL5 as shown in Figure 4.

28. (Previously amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said vector is pXL6 as shown in Figure 5.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) A method of using a gene encoding a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) G protein or a RSV G protein fragment that generates antibodies that specifically react with RSV G protein, to produce an immunogenic composition, which comprises:

(a) isolating said gene,

(b) operatively linking said gene or fragment thereof to an immediate early cytomegalovirus promoter sequence to produce a plasmid vector that will not replicate when introduced into a mammal, and

(c) introducing a second nucleotide sequence encoding the human cytomegalovirus Intron A into the plasmid from step (b) between said promoter sequence and said gene to increase expression of RSV G protein or fragment thereof, thereby producing an immunogenic composition.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Original) The method of claim 40 wherein said vector is selected from group consisting of pXL5 and pXL6.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Formerly numbered as claim 43 - Currently amended) The method of claim 30 further comprising administering the composition from step (c) to a mammal to stimulate an immune response in said ~~animal~~ mammal.